## **CONNECTIONS** Build Bulletin

April 11, 2014



### **Builds Remain On Hold**

The upcoming Family Assessment Response (FAR) and Reports Services builds remain on hold.

Enhanced FAR functionality in CONNECTIONS will be deployed soon after the redeployment of Report Services.

The CONNECTIONS Build Bulletin will announce a new build schedule as soon as an agenda is determined.

# **FAR Tip Sheets/Guidance Documents: Now Available**

In preparation for the upcoming FAR Build, there are several guidance documents now available.

- Family Assessment Response (FAR) Build Job Aid (<u>Intranet</u> / <u>Internet</u>)
- FAR Impact Analysis (<u>Intranet</u> / <u>Internet</u>)
- CONNECTIONS Tip Sheet: FAR Conversion Scenarios (Intranet / Internet)

be available soon. In addition, three of the Post Transformation Technical Assistance Handouts have been updated to reflect FAR-

A second job aid, Introducing the Investigation Stage Summary and Transformed Investigations Windows will

related changes.

- Reviewing Person History (<u>Intranet</u> / <u>Internet</u>)
- Completing a Person Search (Intranet / Internet )
- Reviewing Person History via FSS Stage (Intranet / Internet)

# **FAR Build: Background**

Comprehensive CONNECTIONS system support for Family Assessment Response (FAR) will be implemented with an upcoming build. With this upgrade, a new FAR stage will be incorporated into CONNECTIONS and various windows used for FAR and INV stages will be modernized. A FAR Impact Analysis has been developed that outlines these changes while also delineating the key impacts for all levels of affected staff, district policies and business processes.

Although the new FAR Stage will affect primarily those districts currently participating in the FAR program, other changes will affect a broader range of staff using CONNECTIONS. The build will also modernize existing investigation windows, including Safety Assessment, Risk Assessment, and INV Progress Notes. These updated windows will now appear visually similar to the rest of the INV windows in CONNECTIONS, which feature a navigation pane and collapsible sections. The investigation window related changes are "look and feel" changes only—there will be no modification to window functionality or business rules. In addition, there will no longer be a CPRS link on the NAVIGATION PANE of the My Workload tab; the Child Protective

Record Summary window will no longer be available. Instead, the new Stage Summary window will provide CONNECTIONS users with access to specific view-only stage action windows for INV stages (i.e., Case Summary, Review Intake, High Priority Factors (NYC only), Allegations, Investigation Actions, Safety Assessments, Risk Assessment, Progress Notes, Local Protocol, and Investigation Conclusion).

The FAR Impact Analysis, training announcement, and training schedule are available on the CONNECTIONS Implementation webpage at the links below. Staff should routinely refer to this page and upcoming weekly CONNECTIONS Build Bulletins, where more information will be provided as the build approaches.

CONNECTIONS Implementation (Intranet / Internet)

# **FAR Training Announcement**

either registered for or attended the FAR training. An estimated 350 staff in FAR participating districts will be immediately affected by the FAR build.

Training Update: As of Wednesday, April 9, over 200 staff have

(FAR) Stage in CONNECTIONS **Build iLinc Training** 

Getting to Know the Family Assessment Response

This training is targeted to staff in the districts that participate in the

FAR program. Registration for the classes is now available through the Human Services Learning Center. (HSLC: <a href="https://www.hslcnys.org/hslc/">https://www.hslcnys.org/hslc/</a>) In addition to the training,

two Job Aids will be made available soon that will cover both the new FAR Stage in CONNECTIONS and other changes to CONNECTIONS that will affect aspects of CONNECTIONS, primarily for CPS workers. **PURPOSE** 

#### The purpose of this course is to familiarize local district and voluntary agency workers whose agencies utilize the Family Assessment Response (FAR) approach

with the new FAR stage in CONNECTIONS. Participants will learn about the components of a FAR stage and how to record information on the windows that comprise it, such as Family Led Assessment Guides (FLAGs), Action Plans, Safety Assessments, and the Risk Assessment Profile (RAP). Participants will also learn about track switching a FAR stage to an Investigation (INV) stage and the new Stage Summary window. LEARNING OBJECTIVES

#### As a result of completing this course, participants will be able to:

identify changes arriving with the creation of the FAR stage in

CONNECTIONS.

maintain FAR stage allegations, progress notes, Safety Assessments, and the Risk Assessment Profile

(RAP) in CONNECTIONS.

record FAR-specific components in CONNECTIONS including the Family Led Assessment Guide (FLAG) and Action Plans.

identify when a FAR stage must be track

CONNECTIONS and how to do so. describe how to access and navigate within the Stage Summary.

switched to an INV stage in

# supervisors responsible for recording FAR-related casework activities in CONNECTIONS.

INTENDED AUDIENCE

Local district and voluntary agency

workers and

TRAINING LENGTH

3 hours

#### RECOMMENDED **PREPARATION**

Prior to beginning this course, it is highly recommended that all participants be experienced with CONNECTIONS and complete the following courses:

- Introduction to iLinc
- CPSRT NYC Integrated Core (NYC
- workers only)

#### REGISTRATION Pre-registration in STARS/

HSLC is required.

Please note: There are no

training fees charged to local

district social services and voluntary agency personnel for CONNECTIONS trainings.

#### The handouts for this training are accessible from the iLinc

TRAINING HANDOUTS

registration confirmation email. It is recommended that you print the course handouts prior to the training.

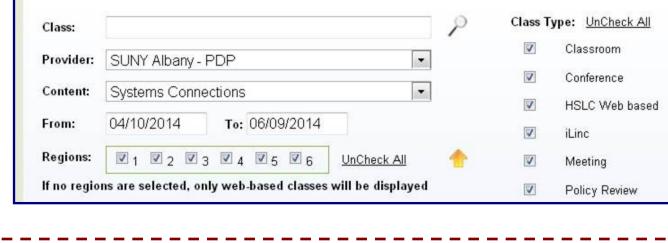
To locate all CONNECTIONS Training courses in STARS/HSLC, search using only the following: **Provider: SUNY Albany – PDP** 

**Content: Systems Connections** 

changed.

Search Schedule:

The date range will automatically be for the next 60 days, which is usually sufficient, but can be





Intranet: <a href="http://ocfs.state.nyenet/connect/">http://ocfs.state.nyenet/connect/</a>

Internet: <a href="http://ocfs.ny.gov/connect">http://ocfs.ny.gov/connect</a>



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